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THE AMERICAN PRISON ASSOCIATION WILL HOLD ITS NEXT ANNUAL MEETING IN NEW ORLEANS, NOVEMBER 19-23. HEAD-QUARTERS, 407 AUDUBON BUILDING. FOR PROGRAM ADDRESS THE SECRETARY, JOSEPH P. BYERS, EMPIRE BUILDING, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

EDITORIALS

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY.

The ninth annual meeting of the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology was held at Town Hall, Saratoga Springs, on September 3rd and 4th, 1917.

The committee reports will be published in the Journal. There is not space for all of them in the present number, and, furthermore, the transcript of general discussion has been received so late as to make it necessary to postpone to the next number publication of some of the reports. The report of the secretary showed an increase of 19 in the membership of the Institute since the last meeting.

Mr. Herbert C. Parsons of Boston read the report of the Committee on "Probation and Suspended Sentence." A minority report has been sent in by Mr. Arthur Towne of Brooklyn.

Francis Fisher Kane, Esq., of Philadelphia presented the report of the Committee on "Drugs and Crime." A brief discussion followed, which was participated in by Mr. John L. Whitman, Superintendent of Prisons for the State of Illinois, and others.

On the evening of September third, Mr. Thomas Mott Osborne delivered an address before a large and interested audience on "Common Sense in Prison Management." He illustrated his talk by recounting personal experiences with rejuvenated prisoners.

The report of Miss Kate Claghorn of New York on "Crime and Immigration" is a valuable document and unique in its class. It was presented by Dr. Bernard Glueck, Director of the Psychopathic Laboratory in Sing Sing Prison and was discussed by Dr. Glueck, Mr. Robert Ferrari of New York and others.

Dr. William A. White, Superintendent of the Government Hospital for the Insane at Washington, D. C., reported for the Committee on "Sterilization of Criminals." Dr. William T. Belfield of Chicago presented a minority report. This committee, on its request, was discharged from further consideration of the subject.

Reports were presented by Maj. John H. Wigmore for the Committee on Translation of European Treatises; by Prof. Robert H. Gault for the Committee on Publications and for the Editorial Staff of the Journal; by W. O. Hart of New Orleans on Co-operation With

Other Societies, and by Mr. Frederic B. Crossley of Northwestern University on the Business Management of the Journal. His report showed a deficit of something more than \$1,400 due to the falling off of European subscriptions and the rise in the cost of materials and labor. His recommendations for meeting this situation were referred to the Executive Board, which is now taking steps to meet the difficulty. Abstracts of these reports will be published in our next number.

Before adjournment Mr. James Bronson Reynolds of New York City brought forward for discussion the subject of the Public Defender. In the course of his talk he presented the substance of the first quarterly report of the Voluntary Defender's Committee of New York City. This report may be found elsewhere in this number under the title, "The New York Public Defender."

Resolutions were passed pledging loyalty to the President of the United States during the continuation of the war, and urging at its conclusion the establishment of a League of Nations "to secure an enduring peace."

The following officers were then elected for 1917-1918:

President, George W. Kirchwey, New York, Assistant Superintendent of Prisons of the State of New York and former Dean of Columbia University Law School.

Vice-Presidents, James Bronson Reynolds, New York; Edward Lindsey, Warren, Pa.

Secretary, Edwin M. Abbott, Philadelphia.

Treasurer, Bronson Winthrop, New York.

Executive Committee (to serve to 1920): Franklin Chase Hoyt, Chief Justice of the Children's Court, New York City; Dr. Thomas W. Salmon, Medical Director of the National Committee on Mental Hygiene, New York; Herman H. Adler, State Criminologist, Chicago, Ill.

President Kirchwey, on taking the chair, said in part:

"I have a vision of an American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology which shall greatly enlarge the usefulness—the very marked usefulness—of the society in the past. I think we may easily count on a very much wider popular support than we have had. I think we may reasonably hope for very much greater financial support than we have heretofore enjoyed. I feel that we may, perhaps, by close co-operation, by taking counsel together and then working together, secure an amount of—what shall I say?—continuous action from the Institute, which it has scarcely had heretofore. I have a vision of a permanent bureau with a director giving all his time to the work of the Institute and who, with others who may be associated

with him, may engage in indispensable research work, upon which the future progress of our cause so largely depends; a bureau in which that work may be carried on in a good many different directions continuously; in which the committees of the Institute shall be aided and inspired to carry on their work so that no year in the history of any committee shall be without some productive result, so that we may, year by year, as we go on, constantly enlarge our boundaries of knowledge with respect to criminal law and criminology, and in connection with it, perhaps, conduct a propaganda in which the results of our accumulating wisdom, if I may so describe it, may be put at the service of communities that desire to better their conditions in this country and abroad, so that we may come really to do what we have been in an intensified degree and on a much larger scale, with a marked influence for the promotion of better conditions both in penology and in dealing with crime in its incipient stages.

"It is a large program that I am outlining and I may pledge, I am sure, not only for myself, but for my colleagues, a real determined, continual effort, during the coming year, to place the Institute upon permanent foundations of usefulness, and to enlarge and carry on the work to the best of our ability. At any rate I pledge myself to that cause, and I have great confidence in the men who have carried on the work of the Institute so long and who have, by their work, shown their faith in the utility of the work which the institute was organized to promote."

Adjournment was then taken sine die.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The committee on Vital and Penal Statistics of the Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, Nathan William MacChesney, chairman, presented its latest report at the twenty-seventh annual meeting of the Conference at Saratoga Springs, N. Y., on August 31, 1917. With the report the committee transmitted the fourth tentative draft of an act to provide for and make uniform the registration of all births, stillbirths and deaths and to be cited as "Uniform Vital Statistics Act." The draft may be found in this number at page 599. The committee made no report on penal statistics. It recommended that this matter be referred to the committee of the conference on co-operation with the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology.